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SENATE BILL 494

46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2003

INTRODUCED BY

Sue Wilson Beffort

FOR THE LEGISLATIVE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO HEALTH; AMENDING THE HEALTH SERVICE CORPS ACT TO
INCLUDE DENTISTS AND DENTAL HYGIENISTS; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION
FOR INCREASED RECRUITMENT OF VARIOUS HEALTH PROFESSIONALS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. Section 24-1D-2 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1994,
Chapter 63, Section 2) is amended to read:

"24-1D-2. DEFINITIONS. -- As used in the Health Service
Corps Act:

- A. "corps" means the New Mexico health service corps;
- B. "department" means the department of health;
- C. "health professional" means a physician, physician assistant, nurse practitioner, nurse-midwife, [or] emergency medical technician-paramedic, dentist or dental

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 hygienist;

2 D. "physician" means a medical doctor or doctor of
3 osteopathic medicine;

4 E. "physician assistant" means a physician
5 assistant or osteopathic physician assistant; and

6 F. "practice site" means a public health clinic or
7 public or private nonprofit primary care clinic that is located
8 in a state-designated medically underserved area or that serves
9 a high-needs population and that uses a sliding fee scale
10 approved by the department. "

11 Section 2. APPROPRIATION. --

12 A. Five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) is
13 appropriated from the general fund to the department of health
14 for expenditure in fiscal year 2004 to expand access to the New
15 Mexico health service corps, as follows:

16 (1) two hundred fifty thousand dollars
17 (\$250,000) to increase the award amounts granted to eligible
18 physicians in the New Mexico health service corps pursuant to
19 the Health Service Corps Act;

20 (2) one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) to
21 add awards for dentists and dental hygienists;

22 (3) one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) to
23 add awards for psychiatrists; and

24 (4) fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to
25 restore and maintain the budget of the New Mexico health

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1 services corps.

2 B. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining
3 at the end of fiscal year 2004 shall revert to the general
4 fund.

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